

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3 are amended and claim 14 is added. The amendments to the claims are supported in the specification at page 10, lines 1-9, and in the drawings at Figs. 2, 6 and 7, for example. No new matter is added. In view of at least the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,150,672 (Whitney) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,017,330 (Hitchins). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The applied references fail to disclose or suggest, either alone or in combination, an injection device including a "collar extending in an outwardly direction from a surface of said reservoir," and at least three bosses "being arranged on one plane that extends parallel to said collar in said outwardly direction," as recited in claim 1.

The Office Action cites Hitchins as allegedly disclosing the at least three bosses in Figs. 3B and 5 as retaining flanges 120', 120, 128' and 128. See Office Action at page 2.

However, as can be seen in Fig. 5 of Hitchins, the retaining flanges 120', 120, 128' and 128 are not each arranged on one plane that extends parallel to the alleged collar in the outwardly direction. If anything, the retaining flanges in Hitchins are arranged on a plane that extends along the length of the injection device, perpendicular to the alleged collar 166. Alternatively, each pair of retaining flanges can be viewed as being arranged on one plane extending in the direction of the alleged collar, but three or more of the flanges are not arranged on a plane that extends parallel to the alleged collar. Thus, for at least this reason independent claim 1 is patentable over the applied references.

Additionally, the applied references fail to disclose or suggest that the bosses comprise "an inclined part that is inclined with respect to the one plane," as recited in independent claim 1.

Here also, the Office Action alleges that retaining flanges 120, 120', 128 and 128' in Hitchins include an inclined part that is terminated by a flange. See Office Action at page 2.

However, as can be seen in Fig. 3B of Hitchins, the retaining flanges do not include any inclined part that is inclined with respect to the plane on which the bosses are arranged. For example, the inclined part is illustrated in the embodiment shown in Fig. 2 in which bosses 33 include an inclined part 330 that is inclined with respect to a plane that extends in the width direction of the nozzle. See specification at page 10, lines 1-6. Accordingly, the inclined part defined in claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested by the applied references. Thus, for this additional reason, claim 1 is also patentable over the applied references.

Claims 2-14 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons enumerated above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:ALW/wkb

Attachment:
Request for Continued Examination

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